IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method for improving driver safety in an oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load, comprising:

obtaining an oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load that includes safety indicia illuminated by one or more EL lighting surfaces; and

driving the vehicle on an highway, wherein at least one EL lighting surface is oriented to the front of the vehicle and at least one EL lighting surface is oriented to the rear of the vehicle so it is visible to drivers approaching a front of the vehicle and to drivers approaching a rear of the vehicle, and further wherein at least one of the EL lighting surfaces is approximately 72 inches in width and at least about 8.5 inches in height.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the safety indicia illuminated by one or more EL lighting surfaces includes a surface on a mud flap attached to the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the safety indicia illuminated by one or more EL lighting surfaces includes a surface on a cab of the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the safety indicia illuminated by one or more EL lighting surfaces includes a surface on the rear of the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the safety indicia illuminated by one or more EL lighting surfaces includes a surface on one or more rear view mirrors of the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the safety indicia illuminated by one or more EL lighting surfaces includes a surface on the top of the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load is driven adjacent to another oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load that also includes the safety indicia illuminated by one or more EL lighting surfaces.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load are driven in conditions of poor visibility.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein one or more of the EL lighting surfaces blink.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein one or more of the EL lighting surfaces of one or more of the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load blinks.

11. (Amended) Apparatus comprising: [A]

an oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load; [, comprising]

a main body;

optional trailer; and

optional mud flaps; [and]

safety indicia illuminated by one or more EL lighting surfaces on the main body and optional trailer and optional mudflaps; and

wherein at least one EL lighting surface is oriented to the front of the vehicle and at least one EL lighting surface is oriented to the rear of the vehicle so it is visible to drivers approaching a front of the vehicle and to drivers approaching a rear of the vehicle, and further wherein at least one of the EL lighting surfaces is approximately 72 inches in width and at least about 8.5 inches in height.

12. (Original) The oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load of claim 11 wherein one or more of the EL lighting surfaces blinks.

13. (Original) The highway vehicle of claim 11 wherein the EL lighting surfaces are of two or more colors.

14. (Original) The oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load of claim 11 wherein the EL lighting surfaces are on one or more side panels defining a perimeter of the trailer.

15. (Original) The oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load of claim 11 wherein the EL lighting surfaces are on the cab.

16. (Original) The oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load of claim 11 wherein the EL lighting surfaces are on the cab.

17. (Original) The oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load of claim 11 wherein the EL lighting surface is on one or more mud flaps.

18. (Original) The oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load of claim 11 wherein the EL lighting surface is on an upper portion of a main body, wherein the main body is a bus, or an RV or an SUV.

19. (Previously Presented) The oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load of claim 11, wherein the EL lighting surface includes indicia that convey a visual safety message including a text message.

20. (Amended) A method for making an oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load, comprising:

obtaining a oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load and attaching to the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load one or more El lighting devices, the EL lighting devices effective for signaling a safety signal to other drivers on a highway, wherein at least one EL lighting device is oriented to the front of the vehicle and at least one EL lighting device is oriented to the rear of the vehicle so it is visible to drivers approaching a front of the vehicle and to drivers approaching a rear of the vehicle, and further wherein at least one of the EL lighting devices has an electroluminescent surface approximately 72 inches in width and at least about 8.5 inches in height.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the safety signal is a color.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the EL lighting device is attached to the front of the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the EL lighting device is attached to the rear of the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein at least one EL lighting device is attached to at least one mud guard attached to the oversized highway vehicle or highway vehicle with an oversized load.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the safety indicia conveys a specific safety message.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the specific safety message includes a slow moving vehicle triangle symbol.